

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01
INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01
PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00
SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 /083 W
-----151524Z 077999 /41

O 151355Z JUN 77
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2197
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE UNN
INFO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE UNN
USCINCEUR UNN

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0307/1

FROM MBFR REPRESENTATIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: COMMENT ON UK PAPER ON DATA DISAGGREGATION

REF: A) NATO 5277 DTG 140920Z JUN 77; B) NATO 5316 DTG 141818Z JUN
77

1. THE DELEGATION FINDS THE UK PAPER (REF B) A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION
TO THE SPC DISCUSSION OF THE FRG DATA PROPOSAL. IN PARTICULAR,
WE FIND PARA 5 AN EFFECTIVE, SUCCINCT STATEMENT OF THE LIKELY
OUTCOME OF PROCEEDING WITH THE FRG PROPOSAL AS TABLED AND THE
DIFFICULT CHOICES THAT NATO THEN WOULD FACE.

2. THE THREE OPERATIVE PROPOSALS OF THE UK CONCORD WITH RECENT
DELEGATION COMMENTS ON THE FRG PROPOSAL, BUT ADD ASPECTS WHICH
COULD BE THE BEGINNINGS OF FINDING A COMPROMISE POSITION THAT
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THE FRG COULD AGREE TO.

3. FIRST, THE UK WOULD NATIONALLY DESIGNATE THE RESIDUAL PERSON-
NEL. DELEGATION AGREES OF COURSE THAT THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT
FIRST STEP: THERE ARE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE NECESSARY DISCLAIMERS,
PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO THE LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN PARAS 6 AND
7 OF THE GERMAN PAPER, AND THESE ARE ADDRESSED IN A SEPARATE

MESSAGE.

4. SECOND, THE UK WOULD REQUIRE A STATEMENT TO THE EAST AT THE OUTSET THAT WE WOULD DISAGGREGATE AIR MANPOWER. AS A COMPROMISE WITH THE FRG, LONDON WOULD BE WILLING TO PROPOSE TO THE EAST THAT AIR MANPOWER DISAGGREGATION BE DEFERRED, BUT ONLY ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IF THAT PROPOSAL WERE REJECTED, AIR DISAGGREGATION WOULD COMMENCE SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH GROUND.

5. THIRD, THE UK OPPOSES MOVING TO DIVISIONAL TOTALS AT THE OUTSET, BUT RECOGNIZES THAT SUCH DISAGGREGATION MAY EVENTUALLY BE NECESSARY.

6. THE REMAINDER OF THE UK PAPER DEMONSTRATES THE BRITISH PROPOSED METHOD OF DISAGGREGATION, WITH EXAMPLE DATA. THE ONLY DEFECT IS ITS CONTINUED USE OF A PURELY FUNCTIONAL APPROACH TO AIR MANPOWER DISAGGREGATION. THE MAJOR DIFFICULTY WITH THAT APPROACH IS THAT THERE IS NO EASILY COMMUNICATED WAY TO SAY THAT AN "OPERATIONAL FLYING UNIT" IS. IT IS THEREFORE LIKELY THAT EACH NATION WOULD INCLUDE VARYING AMOUNTS OF ITS BASE/COMBAT SUPPORT AND ITS COMMAND-CONTROL-COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL, JUST AS THEY APPEAR TO HAVE DONE IN THE AC276(D)6 DOCUMENT THE UK HAS USED. THE UK PROPOSAL WOULD THUS RESULT IN DATA THAT WOULD REFER NOT TO AN EASILY IDENTIFIABLE REAL WORLD ENTITY, BUT TO A SYNTHETIC CONSTRUCT CREATED FOR MBFR PURPOSES, "OPERATIONAL FLYING UNITS." A CLEAR EXAMPLE OF THIS PROBLEM IS THE US NUMBER THAT WOULD BE TABLED UNDER THE BRITISH APPROACH -- 14,700. THAT NUMBER IS NEITHER USAF NOR THE 17TH AIR FORCE, BUT A CONGLOMERATE OF SUBJECTS.

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PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ERDE-00
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O 151355Z JUN 77
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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0307/2

FROM MBFR REPRESENTATIVE

7. IN SHORT, THE UK FUNCTIONAL PROPOSAL WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DEFINE TO THE EAST AND, ONCE DEFINED AND RESPONDED TO, IS NOT LIKELY TO PRODUCE READILY USEABLE DATA THAT THE WEST CAN COMPARE WITH ITS HOLDINGS ON WARSAW PACT AIR AND AIR DEFENSE MANPOWER.

8. THE DELEGATION BELIEVES A BETTER APPROACH WOULD BE ONE WHICH DRAWS ON EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS, AS RECOMMENDED IN MBFR VIENNA 297. IN THIS REGARD, THE UK STATEMENT THAT "THERE IS NO FORMATION ANALOGOUS TO THE ARMY CORPS GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO THE AIR FORCES OF ALL PARTICIPANTS" IS AN OVERSTATEMENT. JUST AS THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH THE ARMY CORPS APPROACH IN GROUND FORCES (FOR EXAMPLE: CANADIAN BRIGADE, INDEPENDENT DIVISIONS SUCH AS THE POLISH AIRBORNE, MILITARY DISTRICTS INSTEAD OF ARMIES, ETC.), SO THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH AN ORGANIZATIONAL APPROACH TO AIR FORCES. BUT THEY ARE MANAGEABLE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE USE OF TACTICAL AIR COMMANDS AND TACTICAL AIR ARMIES IS IN FACT "GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO THE AIR FORCES

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OF ALL PARTICIPANTS," AND THAT ITS USE WOULD GIVE US DATA ON EASTERN FORCES THAT WE COULD RELATE TO WESTERN INTELLIGENCE HOLDINGS.

9. RAF-GERMANY AND THE CANADIAN AIR GROUP ARE SUFFICIENTLY LIKE COMMANDS TO BE SO DESIGNATED. EVERY OTHER WESTERN AIR FORCE HAS A TACTICAL AIR COMMAND (BELGIAN, NETHERLANDS, AND GERMAN TAC, AND US USAF). EVERY EASTERN AIR FORCE HAS EITHER A COMMAND (GDR), ARMY (USSR) OR BOTH (POLAND AND CSSR). DATA FOR SUCH ORGANIZATIONS ARE READILY AVAILABLE IN NATIONAL CAPITALS AND THE DEFINITION OF THESE FORMATIONS NOT ONLY CAN BE SPELLED OUT TO THE EAST IN STRAIGHTFORWARD TERMS THAT THEY WILL UNDERSTAND BUT ALSO IT REFLECTS THE STRUCTURE OF THE FORMATIONS THEMSELVES, NOT SOMETHING INVENTED BY THE WEST FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE.

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